

SITUATION REPORT NO. 11
INCIDENT NO. 96-37
DATE: April 25, 1996 **TIME: 9:00 a.m.**

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58504

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Spring Flood. (Separate situation reports are being issued regarding Devils Lake, incident #96-01.)
2. DEATH AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGE: The northbound lanes of I-29 at mile marker 169 in eastern Walsh County remains closed. Traffic is being detoured to US Highway 81 from Manvel to Grafton. Traffic is expected to resume by Friday.

The Red River has cut off all roads linking Minnesota and North Dakota north of Grand Forks to the Canadian border.

The Red River at Grand Forks is at 44.23 feet and slowly falling after reaching a crest of 45.8 feet on April 21.

1. At Drayton, the Red River is near crest. The reading on April 24 was 42.28 feet; flood stage is 32 feet.

At Pembina, the Red River is predicted to crest at 52.5 feet on April 28. The level on April 24 was 50.1 feet; flood stage is 42 feet.

The Sheyenne River level at Valley City is falling; the current level is 17.5 feet after cresting at 18.72 feet on April 21. Receding waters have allowed road access to 20 of the 39 homes previously affected by flood waters.

The Sheyenne River level is rising at Lisbon. It was recorded at 16.5 feet on April 24; flood stage is 11 feet. The predicted crest is 17-17.5 feet on April 26-27.

The Sheyenne River level is rising at Kindred. It was recorded at 19.5 feet on April 24; flood stage is 16 feet. The predicted crest is 22.0-22.5 feet on April 29-30.

Jamestown Reservoir is continuing its rise. It reached 1,444.5 feet M.S.L. on April 24. It is expected to reach 1,444.9 feet M.S.L. without any additional rainfall. Current releases of 900 cfs from Jamestown Dam, combined with 200 cfs from Pipestem Reservoir, require officials to take significant protective actions.

Rolette County officials reported they had seven culverts wash out and 36 roads that had water over them during the spring runoff.

4. RESOURCES COMMITTED:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: State agencies that have been active in flood response thus far include: ND Division of Emergency Management, State Radio Communications, Department of Transportation, ND Health Department, ND Human Services, ND Highway Patrol, ND Agriculture Department, Civil Air Patrol, ND National Guard, and the ND State Water Commission.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: Grand Forks city dike walkers continue to monitor the dikes 24 hours a day.

Salvation Army staff members report they have completed 7,500 incidents of service, including coffee distribution, meals, counseling, and emergency lodging. So far, 300 Salvation Army cleanup kits were distributed in Pembina County. Three evacuated Bowesmont families are receiving lodging from the Salvation Army.

Dike walkers in the city of Pembina are working two-hour shifts around the clock.

Volunteers have been filling and placing sandbags in the Kindred area. The American Red Cross (ARC) is coordinating with church and civic groups for providing food to the workers.

The ARC shelter at Grafton was closed the evening of April 22. ARC family service representatives were involved in relocating the individuals who were sheltered.

ARC is distributing an additional 500 cleanup kits in Walsh and Pembina Counties.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: Kindred city and Cass County Highway Department employees continue flood- fight preparations. A major sandbagging operation is underway in Kindred. Workers are removing debris in county drains and along bridges that cross the Sheyenne River to facilitate river flow.

The ND National Guard transported 19 pallets of filled sandbags from Fargo to Kindred for use in flood-fighting efforts.

Cass County Commission issued an emergency declaration on April 22, 1996.

The Cass County emergency manager discussed Sheyenne River projected levels with mayors of West Fargo and Horace.

In Jamestown, city officials are removing a box culvert across the James River to increase the hydraulic capacity of the James River through Jamestown. Calculations indicate removal of this culvert may decrease river levels by at least one foot through the city.

In Pembina County, 104,000 sandbags have been used in response to 1996 spring flooding.

The Pembina County Health Nurse advised residents working around flood waters to get tetanus shots. The County Health staff is giving tetanus shots to county residents throughout the week.

At a meeting of Logan County, ND Division of Emergency Management, State Water Commission, and ND National Guard officials on April 24, in Napoleon, it was determined and agreed upon that the current transportation problems could be addressed locally in joint efforts by township and county officials.

ND Department of Transportation (ND DOT) workers have placed temporary fill on ND Highway 11 two miles east of Ashley. One-way traffic is being maintained. ND DOT officials are working with local officials and land owners concerning the outlet of Lake Tschetter and future ND Highway 11 alignment and elevation.

A temporary dike remains in place on the shoulders of I-94 through a local slough at mile marker 188 near Driscoll. ND DOT officials are working with representatives of the local water resource board and Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad on lowering the water level of the slough.

ND DOT workers are placing sand bags along the right of way near the Sheyenne River Bridge on ND Highway 46 to limit Sheyenne River flooding.

ND DOT also working with the water resource board to monitor drainage near a local slough one mile east of Hurdsfield along ND Highway 200.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: None at this time.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER INFORMATION: None at this time.

Signed _____
Douglas C. Friez
State Director